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Viewing cable 05CAIRO9134, MUBARAK REBUFFS DECEMBER 6 AL SHARA'A PLEAS

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cables unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#05CAIRO9134**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
05CAIRO9134	2005-12-07 17:23	2011-08-30 01:44	CONFIDENTIAL	Embassy Cairo

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.al-akhbar.com/node/16545>
<http://www.al-akhbar.com/node/16461>
<http://www.al-akhbar.com/node/16545>
<http://www.al-akhbar.com/node/16546>
<http://www.al-akhbar.com/node/16605>
<http://www.al-akhbar.com/node/16606>
<http://www.al-akhbar.com/node/16703>
<http://www.al-akhbar.com/node/16793>
<http://www.al-akhbar.com/node/16794>
<http://www.al-akhbar.com/node/16636>
<http://www.al-akhbar.com/node/16635>
<http://www.al-akhbar.com/node/17148>
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<http://www.al-akhbar.com/node/16639>

<http://www.al-akhbar.com/node/16640>
<http://www.al-akhbar.com/node/16641>
<http://www.al-akhbar.com/node/16642>
<http://www.al-akhbar.com/node/16643>
<http://www.al-akhbar.com/node/16644>
<http://www.al-akhbar.com/node/16645>

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 009134

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/07/2015

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PTER](#) [SY](#) [LE](#) [EG](#)

SUBJECT: MUBARAK REBUFFS DECEMBER 6 AL SHARA'A PLEAS

Classified by DCM Stuart Jones for reasons 1.4(b) and (d).

1. (C) President Mubarak met with Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk al Shara'a in Cairo on December 6. Presidential Advisor Soliman Awad gave the DCM a readout of the meeting on December 7. Awad said that Al Shara'a asked Mubarak to mediate for Syria with Chirac and the President and to recruit the Saudis to counter a potential UNSCR or Security Council Presidential Statement following the release of the next Mehlis report. Al Shara'a reportedly complained that the Saudis -- and Bandar in particular -- had failed the Syrians. Awad said Mubarak rebuffed Shara'a's request and said Syrian cooperation, until recently, had been lacking. Mubarak did, however, note that sending the witnesses to Vienna was a positive step. Mubarak advised al Shara'a that Syria had relied too much on Russia, and said that blocking a UNSCR or statement would be impossible.

2. (C) Al Shara'a then asked Mubarak to help ensure that any tribunal established to prosecute the Hariri murderers not be international, but instead fall under the Arab League (modeled on the Sudan Tribunal, overseen by the AU) and based on Lebanese or Syrian law. Awad said Mubarak rejected this request also, remarking that discussing a tribunal is premature and implied guilt. Awad said Mubarak then asked al Shara'a whether Syria had indeed killed Hariri. Al Shara'a then asked for an Arab summit, but Mubarak said Algeria (as Chair of the Arab League) had already refused. When al Shara'a asked instead for a mini-summit, Mubarak said "no" and said that only Egypt and Saudi Arabia could help Syria and only if Syria cooperates fully with Mehlis.

3. (U) Local press ran front page stories on the visit, emphasizing Mubarak's statement following the meeting that the Mehlis investigation "could last another six months, a year, or even longer." According to reports in the Arabic language daily "Al Akbar", al Shara'a said that Syria wants better relations with Lebanon and to uncover the truth about Hariri's death, but noted that "some inside and outside of Lebanon" are trying to internationalize the matter and use it to pressure Syria. Articles in the pro-government Arabic language daily "Al Ahram" reported that al Shara'a complained that although Syria supports the Mehlis investigation, it does not support the politicization of the inquiry because an investigation with a political objective does not aim to uncover the truth.

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